

--24. (New) The invention as defined in claim 12, wherein said free-wheeling path includes a freewheeling diode, which is forward biased when said field current modulator is in the OFF state.

25. (New) The invention as defined in claim 19, wherein said free-wheeling path includes a freewheeling diode, which is forward biased when said field current modulation means is in the OFF state.

26. (New) The invention as defined in claim 19, wherein said means for selectively and temporarily absorbing excitation current in said free-wheeling path includes an RC circuit.

27. (New) The invention as defined in claim 1, wherein said free-wheeling path, when said field current modulator is in the OFF state, feeds excitation current induced in an exciter motor winding of said generator back to said power generator.

28. (New) The invention as defined in claim 12, wherein said free-wheeling path, when said field current modulator is in the OFF state, feeds excitation current induced in an exciter motor winding of said generator back to said power generator.

29. (New) The invention as defined in claim 19, wherein said free-wheeling path, when said field current modulator is in the OFF state, feeds excitation current induced in an exciter motor winding of said generator back to said power generator.--